



Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Department of Highways District 9

For Immediate Release
Nov. 16, 2012

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State highway crews ready for winter snow season!

Priority routes established

FLEMINGSBURG, Ky. – With more than 26,000 tons of salt on hand, and more than 75 snow plows, salt spreaders and other equipment ready in Bath, Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas and Rowan counties, Kentucky Department of Highways District 9 crews are now on winter weather duty.

Since October, district crews have been inspecting snow plows, calibrating salt-spreading equipment and developing snowstorm response procedures to keep 2,000 miles of state roads passable during inclement weather.

“We take snow and ice response very seriously,” Chief District Engineer Bart Bryant said. “Highway safety is an essential function of the Transportation Cabinet, and our crews are prepared to meet that mandate by keeping our roads as safe as possible during bad weather.”

When bad weather hits, crews are assigned 12-hour shifts to plow and treat roads using a priority system based on the amount and nature of traffic within each individual county. Priority A routes include major through routes and are those most heavily traveled. Priority B routes include other important, but lesser traveled, state routes. Other roads fall into Priority C.

While it’s the Transportation Cabinet’s goal to treat all routes within eight hours of a routine winter storm event, higher priority routes are treated within a one- to four-hour turnaround time.

More detailed information about the Kentucky Department of Highways’ snow and ice response plans, including maps of priority routes in each county, is available online at <http://transportation.ky.gov/District-9> by clicking the “Snow & Ice Operations!” link.

“The Transportation Cabinet recognizes how important roadway conditions are to Kentucky motorists, especially during winter storms,” Bryant said. “That’s why our highway crews often spend long hours away from home to keep roadways clear and safe

for the traveling public. We appreciate their service.”

Throughout snow season, which runs from November to March, highway response teams across Kentucky serve weekly on-call rotations. The teams monitor weather reports when snow is in the forecast and determine when to activate the state’s arsenal of snow-fighting equipment, including more than 1,000 snow plows.

Motorists are reminded to give a wide berth to plows, salt trucks and other snow-clearing heavy equipment. To be effective in dispersing de-icing material, trucks tend to travel at a slower speed. Also, snow plows may create a snow cloud which can cause a white out or zero visibility condition, so keep a safe distance away from the trucks.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: Photos, live interviews and video footage of this year’s preparation work is available by calling Allen Blair at 606-845-2551 or 606-748-3716.

BELOW: Highway District 9 snow removal priority route listings in Bath, Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas and Rowan counties.

Highway District 9 Snow and Ice Priority Routes

Bath County: Priority A routes include Interstate 64, US 60, KY 11 and portions of KY 36 at Owingsville and near the Nicholas County line. Priority B routes are KY 36, KY 111, KY 211 south of Salt Lick, KY 965 in the Preston area, and KY 1325. Other routes are Priority C.

Boyd County: Priority A routes include Interstate 64, US 60, US 23 and portions of KY 180 and KY 67. Priority B routes are KY 3, KY 5, KY 168, KY 538, KY 766, KY 1134, KY 1012, KY 3294, KY 3291 and portions of KY 854. Other routes are Priority C.

Carter County: Priority A routes include Interstate 64, US 60, KY 9, KY 1 north of Grayson, KY 7 south of Grayson and KY 2 at Olive Hill. Priority B routes include remaining sections of KY 1, KY 7, KY 2, KY 174, KY 182 and KY 1947. Other routes are Priority C.

Elliott County: Priority A routes include KY 7, KY 173 and a portion of KY 32 through and east of Sandy Hook. Priority B routes are KY 32, KY 486, KY 719, KY 702, KY 1620 and a portion of KY 504. Other routes are Priority C.

Fleming County: Priority A routes include US 68, KY 11, KY 32 east of Elizaville, KY 32X (Flemingsburg Bypass) and KY 165. Priority B routes are KY 32, KY 57, KY 170, KY 111, KY 559, and portions of KY 344 and KY 158. Other routes are Priority C.

Greenup County: Priority A routes include US 23, KY 1, KY 8, KY 10, KY 67, KY 827, KY 693, KY 750, KY 1093, KY 1725, the northern half of KY 7 and a portion of KY 207. Priority B routes are KY 2, KY 7, KY 207, KY 503, KY 244, KY 2433, KY 1458, KY 2541, KY 410 and KY 3105. Other routes are Priority C.

Lewis County: Priority A routes include KY 9/10 (AA Highway), KY 59 and KY 8 east of Vanceburg. Priority B routes are KY 57, KY 10 through Tollesboro, KY 344, KY 559, KY 377 and KY 3020. Other routes are Priority C.

Mason County: Priority A routes include US 68, US 62/62X at Maysville, KY 8, KY 9, KY 10 (at Germantown and Maysville), KY 11, KY 324 (east of US 68) and KY 2513. Priority B routes are US 62, KY 10, KY 324, KY 1448, KY 1449, KY 3056 and KY 3170. Other routes are Priority C.

Nicholas County: Priority A routes include US 68, KY 36 and KY 32 at and west of Carlisle. Priority B routes are KY 13 and KY 32. Other routes are Priority C.

Rowan County: Priority A routes include Interstate 64, US 60, KY 519, KY 32 from the Fleming County line to near Elliottville and KY 173. Priority B routes are KY 32, KY 174, KY 377, KY 801, KY 158 and KY 1274. Other routes are Priority C.

** Detailed maps and a description of the priority route system can be found online at <http://transportation.ky.gov/District-9/Pages/Snow-And-Ice.aspx>.*